

2025 MSCA Board of Directors Election

Name of MSCA Member Voting: _____

You must be 16 years old and an MSCA Member to Vote. Registration link available on MSCA website.

Completed ballots can be e-mailed to Election Judge Ed Bourgeois at: edntuffy@gmail.com by 7 PM on February 13 or placed in the ballot box in person by 5:30 PM on Feb 14 at the Annual Meeting.

Candidates (can vote for up to 3 candidates):

- John Bartholomew
- Scott Carpenter
- Sandeep Jain

John Bartholomew

I am honored to seek nomination to the MSCA Board. This is an exciting era for chess, and I believe my chess and business experience would assist in fostering the growth of the game in Minnesota. The current board has done a tremendous job in building a robust state chess community, and I am eager to assist in continuing their legacy.

I got my start in chess by participating in School Chess Association (SCA) tournaments. I also benefited from the kindness and instruction of two local chess legends, Brian Ribnick and Ed Zelkind. In middle school, my parents took me to the Chess Castle and entered me in MSCA tournaments, where I regularly matched wits with some of Minnesota's best players. These experiences proved invaluable, because I soon found success on the national stage, becoming National Junior High champion in 2001 and National High School champion in 2002. I earned my International Master title in 2006, and I was inducted into the Minnesota Chess Hall of Fame in 2019.

For the past 12 years, I have been living in the Twin Cities and teaching chess full-time both online and in-person. In 2015, I co-founded the chess learning platform Chessable, which was subsequently acquired by Magnus Carlsen's company, the Play Magnus Group. Since 2014, I have posted hundreds of free instructional chess videos on my YouTube and Twitch channels. I have a BS in Business Administration from the University of Texas at Dallas - a school I attended on an academic/chess scholarship.

None of this would have been possible without the Minnesota chess community. Access to local tournaments and learning resources honed my chess skills, and the friendships I developed with other Minnesota chess players have quite literally shaped my life. I am forever grateful for these opportunities, and I want to ensure that current and future Minnesota chess enthusiasts have similarly wonderful and potentially life-changing opportunities. I am particularly interested in further developing our scholastic chess scene and cultivating awareness of our community to would-be chess players in Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to serving on the MSCA board.

Scott Carpenter

I've enjoyed using my emoji and technical skills to help serve the Minnesota chess community these past two years as a member of the board. It has been far more work than I expected, and extremely rewarding!

I am running for re-election in 2025. I would love to continue working with this board and the membership. I think we've done a lot of good work and expect we'll see more growth and fun in the years ahead. 🎉🍷

As a chess player, I was a member of the *storied* Lincoln Elementary teams coached by Ted Haugan in the 70s/80s. That gives me a sense of grounding in our chess history, even though I was away from the game for my entire adult life, up until 2020. Perhaps an old and a new perspective. Certainly a view from the C/D "middle classes."

As a contributor, I'm happy to use my 27 years of software development and business experience to help power the ship. I specialize in cultivating premium dilithium crystals for the engines. Just call me Scotty.

Sandeep Jain

I am writing to express my sincere interest in serving as a member of the State Chess Board. I have had the pleasure to be associated with the MN Chess community for the last 3 years. During these last three years I have made many new friends. I am a lifelong enthusiast of the game of chess, I had to give up chess during my college years due to the rigors of college. I am fortunate that I got to rekindle my love for the game when my son took up chess 3 years ago. I believe I am well-suited to contribute meaningfully to the continued growth and success of chess in Minnesota.

If I am given an opportunity to serve on the board of MSCA I would like to focus on these key areas.

MSCA to get tax exempt status as an educational organization and foster corporate relationships. This will help strengthen the finances of the MSCA.

Coordinate with other chess entities in MN such as School Chess Association, Coach Igor, to develop chess education programs for schools in MN under the auspices of MSCA. This endeavor will have the goal to raise awareness of MSCA in school students and increase participation of students in the MSCA tournaments.

I will also work to organize more tournaments of higher profile to attract out of state players to MN.

I am excited by the prospect of working alongside other board members to shape the future of chess in our state.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing success of chess in our state, and to helping ensure that it remains a vibrant and integral part of our community for years to come.

MSCA Board Members Returning for the 2nd Year of their 2-Year Term in 2025:

- Tim Radermacher
- Jenny Bourne
- Sean Nagle
- Mike Benson